

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7804

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

UNCLAS TUNIS 5630

DEPT PASS USAID, EXIMBANK AND TREASURY

E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECTS UNDER FIFTH DEVELOPMENT PLAN: WATER SUPPLY
FOR CITIES IN NORTHERN TUNISIA: EARLY WARNING

REF: 10 FAM 164; TUNIS A-097, TUNIS 5282

1. (SUMMARY) THE FOLLOWING ON POTABLE WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS CONTINUES EMBASSY REPORTING ON MAJOR PROJECTS OF COMMERCIAL INTEREST TO BE CARRIED OUT UNDER TUNISIA'S FIFTH DEVELOPMENT PLAN (1977-81) AS LISTED BY GOT (TUNIS A-097). SONEDE, THE WATER EXPLOITATION AND DISTRIBUTION COMPANY UNDER THE TUNISIAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, IS PREPARING FOUR MAJOR PROJECTS TO EXTEND AND IMPROVE DRINKING WATER DISTRIBUTION IN NORTHERN TUNISIA WHERE URBAN AREAS ALONG THE COAST ARE GROWING RAPIDLY. PROJECT 24 FOR WATER SUPPLY TO BIZERTE AND NEIGHBORING MENZEL BOURGUIBA IS STILL AT PREFEASIBILITY STAGE. SONEDE SHOULD MOVE TO INTERNATIONAL TENDER WITHIN SIX MONTHS ON THE OTHER THREE PROJECTS: PROJECT 25, A MASTER PLAN FOR WATER DISTRIBUTION IN GREATER TUNIS; PROJECT 26 FOR WATER SUPPLY IN SAHEL AND CAP BON AREAS; AND, PROJECT 27 FOR WATER SUPPLY FOR GREATER TUNIS AND CAP BON.

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ALL FOUR PROJECTS ARE EXPECTED TO BENEFIT FROM FUNDING (SAUDI, KUWAITI, IBRD) WHICH IS UNTIED AS TO SOURCING OF IMPORTED GOODS AND SERVICES.

2. PROJECT 24: WATER SUPPLY FOR BIZERTE AND MENZEL BOURGUIBA. SONEDE PROJECT IS INTENDED TO SUPPLY WATER NEEDS OF THESE TWO NORTHERN CITIES UP TO YEAR 2000. WORKS WILL CONSIST OF SUPPLY AND

INSTALLATION OF 20 KILOMETERS OF PIPELINE ONE METER IN DIAMETER, 20 KILOMETERS OF 80 CENTIMETER PIPE FOR CITY OF BIZERTE, AND FILTRATION STATION OF 400 LITERS PER SECOND CAPACITY FOR MENZEL BOURGUIBA.

3. TOTAL COST OF PROJECT ESTIMATED AT \$24 MILLION. PRELIMINARY STUDY WILL BE UNDERTAKEN IN 1978-79. NO ENGINEERING COMPANIES HAVE YET BEEN CONTACTED. SONEDE WILL LOOK TO FOREIGN SOURCES SUCH AS KUWAITI FUND OR SAUDI DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR FINANCING. EMBASSY ADVISES U.S. ENGINEERING FIRMS TO WRITE, IN FRENCH, TO SONEDE DIRECTOR OF STUDIES AND INFORM HIM OF THEIR SERVICES AND INTEREST IN SONEDE PROJECTS.

4. PROJECT 25: MASTER PLAN FOR WATER DISTRIBUTION FOR GREATER TUNIS AND CERTAIN CITIES IN NORTHERN TUNISIA. SONEDE HAS PREPARED LONG-TERM MASTER PLAN FOR WATER DISTRIBUTION IN GREATER TUNIS, NABEUL, BEJA, JENDOUBA, ETC., IN ORDER TO (A) INCREASE CAPACITY OF NETWORK OF MAJOR TRUNK LINES; (B) IMPROVE AND ADAPT WATER DISTRIBUTION NETWORK; AND, (C) INCREASE NUMBER AND CAPACITIES OF WATER DISTRIBUTION RESERVOIRS.

5. COST ESTIMATED AT \$97.5 MILLION OF WHICH \$50.6 MILLION IS TO BE SPENT OVER FIVE YEAR PERIOD (1977-81). FOREIGN CURRENCY PORTION TO BE FINANCED BY KUWAITI FUND.

6. ENGINEERING STUDIES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED BY FRENCH FIRM SOGREAH
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OF GRENOBLE. AN INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR BIDS IS TO BE ISSUED IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER OF THIS YEAR FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT FOR THIS PROJECT.

7. PROJECT 26: WATER SUPPLY FOR SAHEL AND CAP BON AREAS. TOTAL POTABLE WATER RESOURCES NOW AVAILABLE IN CAP BON PENINSULA (NORTHEAST OF TUNIS) AND SAHEL (COASTAL AREA AROUND TOWN OF SOUSSE, ABOUT 90 MILES SOUTHEAST OF TUNIS) SHOULD COVER NEEDS UNTIL 1981. SONEDE PROJECT IS TO USE NEW RESOURCES THAT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE BY CANAL BRINGING WATER TO CAP BON FROM THE MEDJERDA, TUNISIA'S PRINCIPAL RIVER, TO MEET STEADILY INCREASING NEEDS OF THESE TWO AREAS UNTIL TURN OF CENTURY. PROJECT WILL CONSIST OF SUPPLYING AND LAYING 100 KILOMETERS OF PIPELINE, INSTALLING PUMPING STATIONS AND WATER TREATMENT STATION OF 1.5 CUBIC METER PER SECOND CAPACITY.

8. TOTAL COST OF PROJECT, ESTIMATED AT \$73.6 MILLION, IS TO BE EXPENDED OVER 5 YEARS PERIOD (1977-81) AND FINANCED BY SAUDI DEVELOPMENT FUND.

9. FEASIBILITY STUDY HAS BEEN COMPLETED BY THE FRENCH ENGINEERING FIRM SOGREAH OF GRENOBLE. PRELIMINARY DESIGN OF WORKS IS UNDERWAY

AND INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR BIDS IS TO BE ISSUED BY END OF 1977.

10. PROJECT 27: WATER SUPPLY FOR TUNIS AREA AND CAP BON. TO MEET GROWING NEEDS OF CAPITAL AND CAP BON AREAS TO THE YEAR 2000 (FULL EXPLOITATION OF PRESENT RESOURCES WILL ONLY JUST MEET NEEDS UNTIL 1981), ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WILL HAVE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE FROM NORTHERN WATER COMPLEX. THIS PROJECT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN SEVERAL PHASES AS DAMS ARE BUILT IN NORTHERN TUNISIA: (A) FIRST PHASE TO BE CARRIED OUT DURING PERIOD 1977-82 INCLUDES: (1) COMPLETION OF SAIDA DAM RESERVOIR OF 12 MILLION CUBIC METERS; (2) WATER TREATMENT AND PUMPING STATIONS; (3) WATER MAINS UP AND DOWN-STREAM FROM SAIDA RESERVOIR. (B) SECOND PHASE COMPRISES: (1) COLLECTING SWEET (NON-SALINE) WATER FROM ICHKEUL RIVER ABOUT 50 MILES NORTHWEST OF TUNIS TO REDUCE WATER SALINITY; (2) DOUBLING

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FLOW CAPACITY.

11. TOTAL COST OF PROJECT ESTIMATED AT \$80 MILLION. FIRST PHASE, COSTING \$50.6 MILLION, WILL BE IMPLEMENTED OVER FIVE YEAR PERIOD (1977-81). IBRD HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO FINANCE PROJECT.

12. FEASIBILITY STUDY HAS BEEN COMPLETED BY FRENCH ENGINEERING FIRM COYNE ET BELLIER OF PARIS. PRELIMINARY DESIGN OF WORKS IS UNDERWAY. INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR BIDS TO BE ISSUED AT END OF 1977/EARLY 1978.

13. DIVISION OF SONEDE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE PROJECTS IS TUDIES DIVISION HEADED BY MR. ABDELAZIZ MARZOUK, DIRECTEUR DES ETUDES, SONEDE, 23 RUE DR. BRAGUEHAYE, MONTFLEURY SUPERIEUR, TUNIS. HIS DIRECT PHONE NUMBER IS: 259.356. VISITING BUSINESSMEN WHO DESIRE MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON ANY OF FOUR PROJECTS ABOVE SHOULD CONTACT MR. MARZOUK AT THIS ADDRESS. CORRESPONDENCE, IN FRENCH, SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO MR. LE DIRECTEUR GENERALE DE LA SONEDE, AT SAME ADDRESS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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